

According to a first aspect the invention provides an image capture apparatus comprising:

a digital camera comprising a detector having a plurality of detection elements; illumination means configured to emit light which illuminates the document to be captured;

A  
a read-out means configured to capture an image of the document from the detector, the captured image comprising a plurality of data values;

a memory which accommodates calibration information dependent upon the illumination profile of the light incident upon the document from the illumination means; and

a processor configured to process each of the plurality of data values in the captured image according to the calibration information to produce a final image in which the effects of non-uniformity have been substantially removed.

#### REMARKS

An extract from Claim 1 has been added to the Specification. No new matter has been added.

Page 2 was mistakenly not included in the filed application. Page 2 is reproduced below for the examiner's information only. Lines 1-13 of page 2 may be of interest to the examiner because they deal with the prior art. Lines 19-31 merely recite a substantial portion of claim 1.

document will be non-uniform. The areas of the document nearest the light source typically will be illuminated more than the areas of the document further from the light source.

- 5 The uneven illumination can be overcome to a large extent by using two light sources-one either side of the document. However, this increases the cost of the camera and can also increase the bulk of the assembly.

10 An alternative solution is to provide a custom designed reflector which produces a suitable beam pattern that results in even illumination of the document. Again, such designs are expensive to produce. Furthermore, the beam can only be optimised for a given camera to document distance. If this is varied the beam pattern will be incorrect.

- 15 An object of the present invention is to provide an image capture apparatus which ameliorates some of the problems associated with uneven illumination of a document.

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- a digital camera comprising a detector having a plurality of detection elements;
- illumination means configured to emit light which illuminates the document to be captured;
- a read-out means configured to capture an image of the document from the detector,
- 25 the captured image comprising a plurality of data values;
- a memory which accommodates calibration information dependent upon the illumination profile of the light incident upon the document from the illumination means; and
- 30 a processor configured to process each of the plurality of data values in the captured image according to the calibration information to produce a

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application

Respectfully submitted,

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